

FOOTBALL UP TO DATE.

Experts Criticise the Work of Yale, Princeton and Penn- sylvania Elevens.

CAPTAIN COCHRAN WRITES OF HIS TEAM.

Princeton, Nov. 14.—The Harvard game has been played and won, and now every effort is being made to round the men into shape so that when they line up against Yale on November 21 the team will be in the best possible condition.

The Harvard game on November 7 brought out many points in regard to the two teams. It showed, for one thing, that the Cambridge eleven was very much underrated, and also that Princeton has still many weak points in her playing that must be remedied before the Yale game.

The members of the Princeton eleven did not expect a big score against Harvard. They put little credit in the stories of the Crimson's crippled condition, and they realized that home grounds, the memory of last year's defeat and the great crowd of students to cheer on all would tend to make Harvard play the game of her life.

Princeton's play was by no means the best she can do, and was far below her form in the Cornell game. Harvard, on the contrary, played the best game of the year and put up a hard, plucky defence. Considering the fierceness of the struggle the men received no serious injuries and were but little bruised. With the exceptions of Cochran and Kelly, every one was in first-class shape the Monday after the game. Kelly received a hard blow in the side, which developed into a very painful bruise, and has kept him on the side lines for the past few days.

The team is now practically chosen. The only position where there is any doubt is right tackle. Tyler has been given another chance at the position, and has shown great improvement in his work, but Hillebrand has been playing his usual good game, and it looks as if he would hold the position. The practice of the past week has been the best of the year. The men have still fresh in their minds the wonderful improvement always made by the Yale team during their last two weeks of practice, and have resolved that this time they will be prepared to face the best eleven Yale can turn out. There is a spirit of grim determination shown by every member of the team that is very pleasing to the coaches. The men realize the importance of the final practice, and no words of encouragement or censure are needed to spur them on.

The first real hard practice took place Thursday, when two twenty-minute halves were played against the scrub. The playing of the 'Varsity was by far the best of the season. The men all got into the plays. The interference formed quickly, the backs run hard and fast and the players all showed excellent split and vim.

There is little danger of the men becoming overtrained. As a matter of fact, the majority of them have not had work enough. The coaches this year have done wonders to help out the team. Alexander Moffett has given his special attention to Baird, and has no doubt had much to do with the latter's success as a full back. Frank Morse, too, has given the half backs many good pointers. Jesse Riggs, Cook, '88, and Bob Church have all been instrumental in bracing up the line. J. B. Elmer, who was head coach last year, has also given his valuable advice, and, taking all things together, the past season has been one of the most pleasant the team has ever had. Everything has run along smoothly, and there have been few complaints.

One more week and the season of '96, as far as football is concerned, will have been a thing of the past—and upon that week much depends. One thing is certain, however, and that is that the Princeton team, coaches and students will all bend every energy to make the year end a successful one.

GARRETT COCHRAN,
Captain Princeton Football Team.

QUAKERS' OPEN PLAY AGAINST HARVARD.

Philadelphia, Nov. 14.—Next Saturday the football season of 1896 will be over, practically speaking, and we will know something of the comparative merits of the four big teams, but we will not know their respective standing with the accuracy that we would if all four had played together. Harvard and Princeton will have met, so will Yale and Princeton and Harvard and Pennsylvania. Consequently we can compare Harvard and Princeton, Harvard and Pennsylvania, and Yale and Princeton. But any estimates made on the ability of Pennsylvania, Yale and Princeton will only be as a result of approximate estimates, a very unsatisfactory way to wind up the season of such a popular sport as football. The season of '96 is about the same as those of '94 and '95, as far as arriving at the relative merits of the four leading teams is concerned. It is very unsatisfactory that such a state of intercollegiate relations should exist, but until Yale and Princeton take a more sportsmanlike and less selfish view of the situation there seems to be no remedy.

On November 21 Pennsylvania and Harvard will meet, as will Yale and Princeton. The result of both games is absolutely uncertain, and any one who bets on any one of the four teams does so simply because he loves to gamble, not that he is trying to make money from the result of the speculation based on facts. Personally I hope to see Pennsylvania and Princeton win, and that is probably the feeling of a large majority of Philadelphia. Personal desires, however, have got nothing to do with the case.

When in Boston this day last week several Yale and Princeton men and several football reporters of the Boston papers asked me what I thought the result of the Pennsylvania-Indian game would be. The reply was: "If Pennsylvania plays as she has been playing all the season, the Indians should win by about a score of 12 to 0." This seemed to tickle the questioners. "But," I added, "if Pennsylvania plays as her material would warrant you to anticipate, she should win by a score of 18 to 20 to 0." She rose to the occasion, as we have all been hoping she would, and walloped the strong team from Carlisle by 21 to 0. It is said that the Indians did not play as well as they did against Yale, Harvard and Princeton, and Mr. W. Grant Thompson, disciplinary director of the red men, ranks the four big teams as follows: Princeton, Harvard, Pennsylvania and Yale. Still it is only natural to criticize his estimate in this way. Pennsylvania ran the Indians off their feet, and consequently the Indians' showing, of course, could not be as strong as that in their previous games. Hence Mr. Thompson, in seeing his team beaten worse than they had been by any of the other big teams, naturally thought they were playing weaker football.

Harvard played a surprisingly strong game against Princeton, really outplaying the Tigers in the first half by a slight margin. The orange and black's revolving wedges revolved dangerously but once. Then they carried the ball to Harvard's twelve-yard line and there lost it on downs. These masses did not advance as it was expected they would, owing to the fierce concerted tackling of the Harvard team. Pennsylvania's attack is hardly as strong as that of Princeton, and hence it is natural to expect that the Quaker carriers of the ball will make less ground than did the Tigers, and that is not very encouraging to the red and blue's prospects for victory. There is another consideration to be observed in this connection and that is whenever Princeton did try open play, she gained, one of her touchdowns coming this way. The Quakers do not begin to compare with the Tigers in close formation, but they have more tricks and their play is opener. This is the very style of play that gained against Harvard. So may it gain, when worked by the Quakers, against Harvard.

In the Princeton game Harvard was practically without any half back. In Dunlop and Wrightington the crimson has two star advances of the ball. Wrightington did not play against Princeton at all, and Dunlop, after playing a superb game of about twenty minutes, became practically useless, owing to an injury which the writer and many others think was intentionally inflicted. When Pennsylvania and Harvard play on November 21 Wrightington is expected to play, and Dunlop will be in the fettle. While Dunlop was in the Princeton game, and in good condition, he made steady ground against the Jersey team. There is no doubt that Dunlop and Wrightington can gain against the Quakers, but so superb is the defence of the latter that I hardly expect to see Harvard score by carrying the ball by steady rushes through the Quakers' line.

There is an element of strength, however, in the Cambridge eleven that may gain them the victory. They kick constantly, and their forwards are always down upon the ball. Penn's backs have been prone to fumble and mess all season, and in this way Harvard may gain victory. Furthermore, both Morris and Minda have frequently had kicks blocked simply owing to their own poor kicking. This Quaker shortcoming, with the additional fact that Harvard's forwards are aggressive and constantly break through their opponents' line, is another element of crimson victory. This creed is not intended as a prediction of Harvard's success, simply a warning to the Quaker kickers. Another element of Pennsylvania improvement is that all the players recognize the importance of the occasion, have thrown petty personal feelings to one side, are working together tooth and nail; that Captain Wharton has entrusted the giving of the singles to Minda, and that Minda gives them well. Furthermore, another quarter back has been found—Weeks. It is said that Goodman may play against Harvard, but if he does it only shows that Pennsylvania is even stronger at quarter back than any one expected she would be, for the showing of Weeks against the Indians was surprisingly strong.

As to the Yale-Princeton game, I really have no right to predict, as I have not seen Yale this year. However, judging from the opinions of two Yale coaches, Billy Bull and Hartwell, you can put it down for a fact that the battle in New York will be a fierce one. Princeton's showing against Cornell was wonderfully strong, while Yale's up to that date has been below form. Still, it is a little hard at New Haven to jump in and improve most alarmingly in the last two weeks of the season. Where Yale expects to figure very largely on November 21 is in the alacrity of her rush line. Her forwards are expected to be fast—all over the field and on the ball. Their game will be to block kicks and take advantage of fumbles. It is anticipated that their fierce tackling will keep the Princeton mass from rolling on dangerously. At the present writing Hinkley is disabled, but there is little doubt that he will be in the big game, and his kicking is said to compare favorably with that of Baird. It is a toss up which eleven wins either game.

N. B. YOUNG.

SITUATION AT YALE STILL UNSETTLED.

New Haven, Nov. 14.—There remains but one more week before the day of the Princeton game, and yet the football situation at Yale is still unsettled.

Last year the game with Brown University, played two weeks before the big game and resulting in a tie score, showed the Yale team in an almost completely demoralized condition. But numerous coaches were summoned to New Haven, and as a result of their strenuous efforts the team made far greater improvement than most anyone had dared hoped for, and a help labor was crowned with victory. This year an even greater change must take place. The team is at present work-

ing together better than at the time of the Brown game last year, but the men are so much inferior individually that nothing but the most perfect team work will bring the team to a successful close.

It is safe to say that no Yale captain ever had a harder task to accomplish than Captain Murphy. There have been times when more members of the eleven of the preceding year have left college, but never was there such an extreme dearth of material with which to fill their places. Then, too, the practice and development of the team have been seriously delayed by the injuries of several of the 'Varsity eleven. None of these were serious in themselves, but, occurring in the days preceding the last week of practice, are a source of much anxiety.

Benjamin began work again on Wednesday, after an absence of a week and a half, due to a wrenched shoulder. Captain Murphy and Chamberlain were also on the hospital list for a week, but both are now entirely recovered. Hinkley, after recovering from an injury to his foot, was suddenly taken ill with tonsillitis, so that it is now over two weeks since he has taken part in the practice.

The faculty, too, have a hand in heaping up troubles for Captain Murphy. Goodwin has been barred from playing on account of his bow stand, and has been relegated to the scrub, where he now aids in giving the 'Varsity practice. The rules of the faculty are this year stricter than ever, and there have been several narrow escapes from Goodwin's gate.

All this may seem like what is usually called "Yale's annual bad luck story," but to any one in close touch with football affairs at New Haven the situation is here under rather than over drawn. However, Captain Murphy and the coaches are hard at work solving the problem that is before them, and some good results are already evident. The practice during the past week has been hard and fast, and even with a great many substitutes on the eleven, the team work has improved.

The field has fairly swarmed with coaches during the week. One afternoon there were present Hartwell, Beecher, McCormack, Corbin, Terry and Knapp, a brilliant aggregation of the stars of by-gone days. When such a collection of coaches get to work at a football team if there is anything in the men it is bound to be brought out.

Everybody realizes that only by perfect team work and fast play can a team composed of such individually mediocre players hope to be successful against Princeton, and consequently it is in this direction that the coaches are bending all their energies.

Although during the entire season the situation back of the line has been wavering and uncertain, the tangle at present is worse than ever. One is constantly wondering what new combination will next be tried. During Hinkley's enforced absence from full back this last week, all kinds of experiments have been made. Flncke has been moved from quarter to full and then to half back and back again to quarter. He plays nicely in all these positions, but is rather slow. He runs hard when once he gets up speed, and dodges fairly well. He punts well at times, but gets the ball away slowly, and is rather uncertain. It is hardly possible that he will permanently be moved from quarter.

Hine, who has played on the scrub the entire season, has recently been making an excellent showing at full back in the 'Varsity, and has pushed Chamberlain back to the second eleven. Hine is one of the fastest runners on the field, and there were only time enough remaining he could probably be formed into a first-class 'Varsity man. He has more weight than Hinkley, is faster, and kicks quite as well. He is also being tried at half, so that his ability may be made use of in either position.

Benjamin is almost certain to play one of the halves, but for the other any one of three or four candidates may be chosen. Mills plays a fairly good game, but shows no improvement. His playing is hard and fierce, but lacks judgment. He and Connor seem to be in the lead for the place, as Captain Murphy has them both at the special 'Varsity training table. Van Ery's work has remained stationary, or perhaps deteriorated, since the middle of the season, and under present conditions he is not likely to become even first substitute.

An excellent player was lost when Gilmore wrenched his knee. The injury was received in the last game with Brown, and is so serious that he will hardly be able to use his leg during the rest of the season. He was one of the fiercest tacklers and runners on the field, but was blind to opportunities, and was greatly lacking in discretion.

Connor's playing at half has thus far been very good, considering his lack of experience in that position. He is at his best in close formation plays, as he has the faculty of keeping on his feet during the push and struggle. His ability in tackling would be of great assistance in the back position. He is one of the fastest runners in the squad, but has not proved effective in and out of formation on account of his lack of experience. Should he return to his former position, and it would be easier to select the backs, but another difficulty would arise in making a choice among the ends.

At present Connor is playing end better than either Bass or Hazen. In the early part of the season both these men were playing nicely in their positions, and gave promise of becoming the best ends of the year, but both have unaccountably fallen off. However, they may both be depended upon to hold up their positions when required. There is very little difference in the playing of the two, and it is a matter of considerable speculation as to what the end combination will be.

The rest of the team is practically settled upon. Rodgers and Murphy make a pair of tackles that is hard to equal. Chadwick and Murray at guard show no marked changes either for better or worse. Chamberlain, though extremely light for centre rush, has filled the position nicely. In spite of his lack of weight he is very strong, and with his quick perception he is a hard man to get the better of. McFarland has again come out, and the coaches have been giving him instruction and practice in both guard and centre play in order that he may be substituted in either position.

Instead of practising almost entirely in secret, and with only occasional open days, as last year, the active playing is done before the public, and afterward the 'Varsity—cripples and all—go through their signals and practise their special formation.

Captain Murphy will give the team some hard work in the fore part of the coming week, and then will give his men a good rest just before the big game. Last year the team practised up to the day preceding the game, but such a course is risky, and will not be followed unless it is deemed absolutely necessary for "shaking the team together."

If the wonderful finish which Yale usually makes is to be repeated this year, she must improve very rapidly in the remaining week, or she will be unable to overtake the Tigers, who undoubtedly now have a long lead. However, seemingly impossible things have before now been accomplished by the Yale coaches, and with such a staff of them as will direct the work of the team this week, perhaps a seemingly impossible thing may be accomplished again.

GIVE THE PLAYERS A CHANCE.

ATHLETES' ANNUAL MEETING.

To the Editor of the Journal:

A very recent article published in the columns of one of our leading morning papers has recalled to my mind the great contrast in management between the football ground of Prospect Park and that of our own great city in Central Park. It spoke, among other things, about the erection of "goal posts" at Prospect Park, also of the field being staked off and roped in to prevent the masses that congregate on the occasion of a football game from surging in on the players, and so interfering greatly with the effectiveness and science of their play. I also noticed that a squad of five policemen was detailed to keep the crowd within bounds, and so facilitate the playing of the game.

While the Park Board of our sister city has so kindly treated the youthful citizens under its care, we of the great metropolis and a field which is inferior to that of the parade grounds of Brooklyn. On our grounds in the North Meadow in particular contesting elevens were forced on several occasions to suspend play on account of the masses that gathered to see the crowd, which generally is four or five deep, can be driven back and play resumed. The spectators completely encircled the teams and drew so near as to be a hindrance to the "backs," compelling the "end" to close in upon the "tackle."

This necessitates the continuance of centre plays, and running around the ends—the brilliant feature of football—is thoroughly out of the question. This compulsion of centre and end plays is not accountable for the many mishaps which occur. The stout policeman at the North Meadow evidently takes great delight in breaking up games, while, as to keeping the crowd within bounds, he skillfully avoids the trouble, and may be found in some remote corner of the field, expelling from the ground some harmless little fellows who are the full enjoyment of their innocent sport. For the simple reason that they have no permit. The police seem entirely unable to perform the duties which devolve upon them.

I remember an incident which happened about three weeks ago: Two teams, one from this city, the other from New Jersey, were both contesting for the prize of the game, up to which time neither side had scored. The former team was within four or five yards of the goal, and the stout policeman at the North Meadow and steadily advancing the ball, when the team made too much noise. This decision virtually robbed the New Yorkers of what would undoubtedly have been a victory and hard-earned victory.

As to the goal posts, they are certainly out of the question. From personal observation I can truthfully state that at the time last year a certain team placed as goal posts and foul guide lines six small flags, emblematic of their club, and the same policeman above referred to promptly ordered them taken down and put out of sight.

We do not ask for any of these accommodations, although we have no objections to them, but all we want is a sufficient number of police to keep the crowd in check and give the players the required amount of space. When I say it is an arduous task to the boys of this great city, I believe I voice the sentiment of the many thousands of football enthusiasts in New York.

L. O.

CONNIEFF WILL TRY INDOORS.

Glasgow, Oct. 25.—T. P. Connieff, the Irish-American champion distance runner, partially redeemed himself in the two-mile race here yesterday, which was the first of the series for the World's Championship between himself and F. E. Bacon, the English champion, for, though defeated, he accomplished a fine performance, running the winner to within ten yards in the fast time of 9 minutes, 41 2/5 seconds, which, considering the conditions, was very meritorious.

A representative of the New York Journal called on Connieff at the Central Hotel on the morning of the race. The plucky little runner said he felt more like his old self, and only wished he had another week or two in which to build up his strength, as he had not entirely shaken off the influenza which had attacked him a few days before his first race with Bacon. Connieff further stated that he intended to stay in England during the winter, and try and show the public that his American records were no myth.

Mr. R. P. Russell, who is acting as Connieff's manager, is desirous of making a match for him to run Crossland, Watkins or Craig a one-mile race in the near future.

On arriving at Celtic Park it was seen that the recent rain had made the going very heavy, and when it commenced to snow, shortly before the time set for the start, it looked anything but promising.

Fortunately, however, it had cleared up somewhat when the referee, Mr. J. Gordon, of the Manchester Sporting Chronicle, called the men to the mark and placed them under the charge of A. B. George, who acted as starter. When he dispatched the men on their journey there were about 3,000 spectators on the grounds.

Connieff, on the inside, drew to the front at the first turn, Bacon taking up his usual position, about half a yard behind, and slightly wide of his opponent. Thus they ran the first two laps. On entering the third circuit, Bacon astonished the spectators by going to the front, many thinking he was about to force matters. At the time of the three-quarters, however, showed the Englishman had no desire to increase the pace.

In the backstretch of the fourth quarter Connieff once more went to the front, there being less than a yard between the rivals at the end of the lap. The free style in which both were moving pointed to a finish. As the pace showed no signs of falling off, excitement grew higher, and not a few commenced to think Connieff had a chance, so strong did he continue to run.

On the signal being given for the last lap the American champion increased his stride, but his rival was equal to the occasion. Three hundred yards from home a big shout went up, as Bacon drew level with the leader, who made a game effort, and held the English champion for a few strides. But slowly, yet surely, Bacon drew away, until he was ten yards to the good, leaving the lower turn before entering the final straight. The leader took a few hasty glances over his shoulder, which seemed to indicate he was not feeling any too confident that Connieff was doing with and, indeed, he had to keep moving, for his plucky opponent fought on the issue to the bitter end and continued to stagger right to the tape, being within ten yards of the winner at the finish, which would make Connieff's time for the distance about 13 sec.

The three straight wins for Bacon will do much to show the public that the match between the Irish champion and the Englishman was not a mere brag, and that the Englishman is a professional pedestrian in England. Bacon and Crossland are matched to run ten miles next May, Mullin and Watkins meet over a distance of four miles on Christmas Day, and Connieff has been challenged by Mullin to run two or four miles for the Irish championship.

There is a lot of money in professional running here just now, the public being sick of the hypocrisy of those who are supposed to be amateur athletes, and who, as the Englishman could reap a golden harvest by paying England a visit next Spring, and taking on all comers from

one hundred yards up to three-quarters of a mile. Harper, the premier sprinter in England, and Webers, in a series of races at one hundred, two hundred and three hundred yards, and Kilpatrick and Bacon at eight hundred and eighty yards, three-quarters of a mile and one mile, would be attracted to the city, and fill any ground in England, the public being very anxious to see the American record holders, who would be wise in seizing the opportunity of getting some real benefit from their athletic ability.

The following table for each lap (440 yards) and the intermediate laps shows how uniformly Connieff cut out the pace.

	Time.	Laps.	Time.
440 yards.....	1:10.0	1	1:10.0
880 yards.....	2:21.5	2	1:12.4
1,320 yards.....	3:38	3	1:16.3
1,760 yards.....	4:52.5	4	1:14.5
2,200 yards.....	6:08.5	5	1:16.0
2,640 yards.....	7:20.5	6	1:14.5
3,080 yards.....	8:35.5	7	1:15.0
3,520 yards.....	9:51.5	8	1:17.4
3,960 yards.....	11:08.5	9	1:17.0
4,400 yards.....	12:25.5	10	1:17.0

Wicket record, 9:42.5, W. G. George.
Amateur record, 9:42.5, W. G. George.
American record, 9:42.5, W. D. Day.

Football Notes.

At the annual meeting of the International Navigation A. C., held Saturday evening, the following officers were elected for 1907: President, J. A. Young; vice-president, James Thompson; honorary vice-president, Kenneth Craig; president, G. Jamison; vice-president, J. A. Young; secretary, J. A. Young; corresponding secretary, J. A. Young; captain of football team, S. Kimberlin. All communications in reference to games should be addressed to J. A. Young, 100 Vesey street, New York.

The National Association Football League is about to be reorganized for the season of 1906-07. Mr. W. Southern, of the Brooklyn Wanderers, will be glad to hear from clubs desiring any information regarding same. Address, 3540 10th avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. The Newark Association Football Club have organized for the season, and would like to arrange games with first-class clubs playing under association rules. Address, W. K. Murray, Manager, 813 Summer avenue, Newark, N. J.

A REVOLVER CHAMPIONSHIP

The Shooting Committee of the Kulkkerbocker Revolver Club has issued its programme of the open competition for the revolver championship of America. The contest, which is the first of its kind since 1888, will begin on November 30, 1896, at 10 a. m., at the Kulkkerbocker Athletic Club range, Forty-fifth street and Madison avenue, and will close at 11 p. m., December 5.

The conditions governing the contest will be as follows: Any revolver, the barrel and cylinder of which do not exceed ten and one-half inches in length, any ammunition and any trigger pull may be used.

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The distances will be ten and twenty yards, and the total of the best two six-shot targets at each distance to count.

Standard American decimal targets reduced for each distance will be used, and bullets must visibly touch the line to count. The entrance fee will be \$1.25 for each target shot. Re-entries unlimited.